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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Poland

SUBJECT Failure of Agricultural Program

DIST. 31 October 1946

PAGES

SUPPLEMENT

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1. In the spring of 1946, three million hectares of land lay fallow. Out of this total, 2½ million hectares lay in the western provinces and ½ million hectares in Central Poland.
2. The general supervision of untilled land in the Western Provinces has been entrusted to the Zarząd Nieruchomości Państwowych (State Real Estate Administration), with its headquarters in Poznan (Posen). The Chief of the office is Marynka. With the help of agricultural experts, he has divided the area into districts and appointed administrators, one to every 10 farmsteads (folwarki), who must at least put one farm into operation.
3. These administrators have been allotted tractors from "tractor stations" which are run by the State Cooperatives. The land was to be ploughed only once, without fertilizing, since there was a general shortage of manure.
4. Farms have also been allocated to various state institutions, but the whole system was very chaotic and frequently the institutions concerned did not know where the farms were located.
5. On the whole, farms under military administration fared better, but after being taken over into state management they differed little from those under Soviet management.
6. In 1945 in the Opole district, 20,000 hectares sown with colza were not harvested; although the crop was of very poor quality, it might have covered the needs of the entire Dabrowa Industrial Basin, if it had not been wasted.
7. The sugar mills in Kujawy received in 1946 only 30% of the required quantity of sugar beet, and only 60% of the necessary sugar beet was allotted to the southern parts of the Poznan province.

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